

**116 Cedar Lane
State College, PA 16801-6705**

January 22, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530-0001

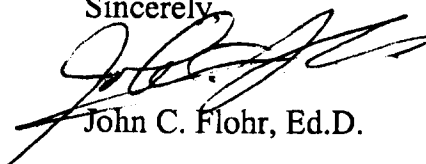
Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my support for the recent antitrust settlement between Microsoft and the US Department of Justice. Although I do believe its marketing tactics have been a bit too heavy handed at times, I have worked daily with its products and those of its competitors for many years and know from experience that the foundation of its industry leadership rests, not on marketing, but on the superiority of its products. I am a Microsoft supporter who thinks that its products and services have contributed greatly to American economic strength at the end of the Twentieth Century. Microsoft's leadership in standardizing the technology industry has produced benefits, to both consumers and to its competitors, which far exceed any detriment attributable to its past marketing approaches. I have no doubt that the settlement is in the best interests of the public since it does not break up Microsoft, but does temper its ability to isolate other vendors.

Under the terms of the settlement Microsoft has agreed to disclose internal interface technology and codes for server interoperability. They have also agreed to design future Windows versions so that consumers, software developers, and computer makers will be able to promote more easily their own products. These stipulations and more on Microsoft's behalf will protect consumers' rights as well as competitors' latitude to operate in this market.

Our economy is in recession and we are fighting an ongoing war on terrorism. Surely our government should be focusing on other more pertinent issues. It's time to settle this case as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



John C. Flohr, Ed.D.

cc: Senator Rick Santorum